

married her to her
 Chennamallikarjuna. They mar-
 ried her to Him with vow-string
 round the \vrist and
 blessing- eternal union. She tells her
 friend -with pride
 that her lover, the beautiful formless
 One, knows not
 death nor diminution. She has fallen
 in love with the
 beautiful One who knows no place,
 yet is everywhere
 but cannot be seen. " Listen to me
 mother, I love the
 birthless, formless, beautiful One;
 the landless, caste-
 less, boundless One.
 Chennamallikarjuna is therefore
 the only male. These others who
 die and change, I
 will have none of them." She tells
 Chennamallikarjuna
 that she remembers Him as the
 elephant separated
 from its herd and taken captive
 remembers its native
 hills or as the parrot housed in a
 cage remembers the
 old companion of the days of
 freedom. The four
 quarters of the day she lives in
 thought of Him. The
 four quarters of the night she lives
 in pain of sepa-
 ration from Him. Day and night alike
 she has lain
 unconscious yearning for Him.
 Grippled with love
 of Him she has given up food and
 drink and sleep.
 This separation was the more absurd
 because He was
 always near. If He had gone to this
 place and that,
 she -would not complain. But if He
 stayed in hand
 and mind and would not speak, how
 should she bear
 His silence?

**I have bathed and rubbed on turmeric and
 have worn
 apparel of gold. Come my lover, come my
 jewel of
 good fortune; your coming is to me the
 coming of
 life. Come, Oh come.

""I have been gazing up the path and thirsting
 -with hope
 that Chennamallikarjuna would come. Now I
 take hold

of Cupid's feet; now I supplicate humbly to
the moon-
Cursed be separation. Whom shall I go and
beg? As